

June 17, 1994

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

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Dear Mr. Alpin:

During the past couple of weeks, I have received several calls from you, Councilperson Goldberg's office, the CRA office, or the Metro public affairs office in Hollywood, all with reports of misconduct by US Guard officers working for the MTA Hollywood Program. All of these complaints indicated that Patriot security was the entity providing the information of misconduct. I take any and all complaints very seriously because misconduct will not be tolerated on any MTA Security Project. I have replaced the supervisor on the Hollywood Program pending the outcome of the investigation.

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The first incident is still under investigation however, the investigating lieutenant for the MTA Police Department, Lt. Murphy, has been unable to locate any police report taken by LAPD on the alleged incident where you indicated LAPD took a crime report. I have also contacted LAPD Sqt Ken Hillman whose staff indicates that no report of this incident was filed with the LAPD. I have requested LA City Fire Department to search their records for Sunday and Monday to see if a victim was transported to a Hospital or was treated by an RA unit for an injury as you indicated. I have received the results of this query and no report of the incident was received by LA City and no one was transported or treated at the alleged location. A search was also made under the alleged victims name with negative results.

Neither of the alleged suspects in this incident have been contacted or questioned by LAPD patrol officers or investigators and they were both working until 2:30 AM that night, two hours after the alleged incident, plenty of time for officers to get a statement from them.

Yesterday, I was provided with information that a Patriot Supervisor went into the Metro Field Office at Hollywood and Vine, a public office that is shared by numerous personnel from another company, and stated that three US Guards had spit on and hit a man and woman with a baton on

the Boulevard in front of the Wax Museum the previous night. On June 16, I spoke to Ms. Hafersah Simmons, the victim of that incident, who stated that she and her male friend had determined that it was definitely not US Guard officers but that it seemed to be three Patriot security guards.

I received another complaint that came from Commander Garcia of your staff that a person stating he was a US Guard was trying to move persons from the sidewalk adjacent the Studio Cafe. He indicated that this was after midnight and that the person was wearing a blue blazer and refused to identify himself. He indicated that one person challenged him and that the man refused to identify The person who challenged him was a Patriot himself. security guard in his own street clothes, reportedly, off The incident occurred after the hours that Patriot is scheduled to work on the Boulevard per Cmdr. Garcia. Commander Garcia stated that the person in the blue blazer was named "Nova". When I asked him how he knew his name if he would not identify himself, he stated that he didn't know how he knew.

investigation revealed that Mr. Nova, the supervisor for US Guards, was in fact at that location to oversee other US Guards. He wears a blue blazer uniform with a US Guard cloth badge "sewn" on the left breast pocket. He further had a US Guard picture ID on his left pocket which clearly made visible his photo and name. He was fully identified pursuant to the mandates of law. The owner of the Studio Cafe have asked US Guards to keep the sidewalk clear for pedestrians on Cherokee, thus it is periodically necessary to ask those persons loitering in the area to clear the walkway. Both the supervisor, not specifically dedicated to Hollywood but who oversee's all US Guard field activity, and the other guards present, indicated that the "plain clothed" person was interfering in their effort to clear the blocked walkway for the proprietor and after much verbal agitation, did identify himself as a Patriot employee.

I am anxious to investigate any complaint of misconduct by officers in the Hollywood Program. In fact I encourage the reporting of incidents for I will not tolerate unprofessional behavior by anyone in MTA Security Programs. I do, however, consider <u>public statements alleging misconduct</u> made by Patriot Security staff or security officers, that are eventually proven untrue and/or proven to be misconduct perpetrated by Patriot security personnel themselves, to be slanderous.

I understand that the Hollywood Project is a highly visible program, and as I indicated in our telephone conversation, I would like to work with you to work out any legitimate

problems that might concern either of us. However, since our conversations, public comments have been made by Patriot personnel, spoken as fact, regarding US Guards and the Hollywood Program, that are either unfounded or that have turned out to be misconduct on the part of Patriot Security Officers and did not involve US Guards at all. I consider these acts to be more than unprofessional, but to be acts of malice, to effect the reputation of the US Guards security firm and the MTA Hollywood Security Program.

I do hope that we can work together and encourage a professional relationship between our Programs and that this professionalism will be not only between management but between the field personnel as well.

Sincerely,

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Pamela Murano Security Operations Manager, MTA Project Manager, Hollywood Program

PM/ss

CC: Councilperson Jackie Goldberg
Veronica Guiterrez
Len Betz, CRA
Donna Hemer, CRA
Ernie Padilla, US Guards
Sharon Papa, MTA Police Chief
Captain Dennis Conte, MTA Police
Captain Ron Eutsey, MTA Police
Nina Webster, County Counsel